

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 SS-15 OC-05 CCO-00 USSS-00

SY-04 EB-06 A-01 CPR-01 RSC-01 /059 W

----- 046260

P 310013Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1439

UNCLAS SINGAPORE 4368

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, SN (DENT, FREDERICK B.)

SUBJ: PROPOSED VISIT BY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE DENT,
DECEMBER 10-11, 1974

REF: A. STATE 236375

B. SINGAPORE 4297

C. STATE 230036

1. GIFTS. DURING PRELIMINARY SESSION AT MFA, PROTOCOL OFFICIALS INFORMALLY ADVISED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO EXCHANGE OF GIFTS. HOWEVER, MFA PROMISED TO CONFIRM WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS. MORRISSEY IS PREPARING CONTINGENCY LIST IN EVENT GOS REVERSES DIRECTIGH.

2. HOTEL RESERVATIONS. RE REFTTEL A, PARA 5, EMBASSY HAS MADE RESERVATIONS AT HILTON HOTEL FOR SECRETARY AND PARTY. AIR CREW WILL BE QUARTERED ELSEWHERE. SHANGRI-LA NORMALLY HAS 98-PERCENT OCCUPANCY AT FULL RATES. THEREFORE, SHANGRI-LA MANAGEMENT NOT PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN MAKING SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR THIS TYPE OF VISIT, OR IN OFFERING EMBASSY DISCOUNT RATES. ON OTHER HAND, EMBASSY EXPERIENCE WITH HILTON DURING SECRETARY SHULTZ AND MANY OTHER VIP VISITS EXTREMELY POSITIVE.

3. VEHICLES. RE VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS (REF A, PARA 2). EMBASSY HAS A TOTAL OF SIX VEHICLES AND DRIVERS. VEHICLE CAPACITY FOUR PERSONS IN ADDITION TO DRIVER. SINCE TWO CARS ON 24-HOUR
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STANDBY REQUIRED, EMBASSY WILL HIRE OUTSIDE DRIVERS. ASSUME

ADDITIONAL COSTS WILL BE BORNE BY USDOC.

4. SCHEDULE. RE REF A, PARA 5, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT, OWING TO DISTANCES INVOLVED (APPROX. 40 MINUTES FROM CHANGI AIRPORT TO HOTEL OR EMBASSY) AND TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN SINGAPORE, PROPOSED SCHEDULE IS POSSIBLE ONLY IF (A) ARRIVAL TIME IS MOVED UP TO 9:00 A.M. AND (B) SECRETARY AND PRINCIPAL ADVISERS COME DIRECTLY TO EMBASSY FROM AIRPORT. (REST OF PARTY WOULD GO DIRECTLY TO HOTEL.) PAST EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT ONE HOUR MUST BE ALLOWED FOR CALLS INCLUDING TRAVEL TIME BETWEEN APPOINTMENTS. MFA HAS AGREED TO REQUEST CALLS ON PRIMIN FOR 11:00 AM AND MINISTER HON FOR 12 NOON, BUT WARNED THAT ONE OR EVEN BOTH CALLS MIGHT HAVE TO BE SCHEDULED IN AFTERNOON. LENGTHY DELAY IS OFTEN EXPERIENCED IN FIRMING UP APPOINTMENTS WITH PRIME MINISTER. IF PAST EXPERIENCE WITH VIP VISITS IS ANY GUIDE, WE MAY BE UNABLE TO FINALIZE SCHEDULE UNTIL FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER.

5. ASSUMING SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL CAN BE MOVED UP TO 9:00 AM. AND APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED AT TIMES REQUESTED MORNING SCHEDULE COULD BE

DEVELOPED AS FOLLOWS:

9:45 -- SECRETARY AND PRINCIPAL ADVISERS ARRIVE AT EMBASSY.
(REST OF PARTY CHECKS IN AT HOTEL).

9:45-10:15 -- COUNTRY TEAM BRIEFING.

10:15-10:45 -- SECRETARY VISITS RECENTLY-ESTABLISHED COMMERCIAL SERVICES UNIT (CSU). (CSU WILL BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL, AND BRIEF SIMPLE CEREMONY CAN BE ARRANGED IN WHICH SECRETARY WOULD FORMALLY OPEN NEW UNIT. SELECTED AMERICAN AND SINGAPOREAN BUSINESS LEADERS AND PRESS WOULD ATTEND. EMBASSY WOULD PREPARE PRESS BRIEF

REMARKS (THREE MINUTES) EMPHASIZING UNIQUE NATURE OF CSU EXPERIMENT AND CLOSE RELATIONSHIP TO AND SUPPORT FROM USIS RESOURCE CENTER.)

10:45 -- LEAVE FOR CALL ON P.M. LEE.

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11:00 -- CALL ON PRIME MINISTER LEE.

11:45 -- LEAVE FOR CALL ON MINISTER OF FINANCE HON SUI SEN.

12:00 -- CALL ON MINISTER HON.

12:45 -- LEAVE FOR LUNCHEON (POSSIBLY HOSTED BY GOS).

1380 -- LUNCHEON.

AFTERNOON AND EVENING SCHEDULE WOULD FOLLOW GENERALLY ALONG LINES INDICATED REF A. HOWEVER, VISIT TO JURONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE WOULD HAVE TO BE KEPT RELATIVELY BRIEF TO PERMIT TOUR OF SINGAPORE HARBOR AND RETURN TO HOTEL IN TIME TO ATTEND AMERICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL RECEPTION. IF GOS SCHEDULES ANY CALLS DURING AFTERNOON, SCHEDULE WOULD HAVE TO BE RADICALLY ALTERED.

6. MFA HAS ASKED TO BE ADVISED SOONEST NAMES AND POSITIONS OF PRINCIPALS IN PARTY (PRESUMABLY ONLY ONE OR TWO) WHO WOULD ACCOMPANY SECRETARY DENT IN CALL ON MINISTER OF FINANCE AND WHO SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN POSSIBLE LUNCHEON. CHARGE REQUIRES SAME INFO FOR DINNER HE IS HOSTING. IN KEEPING WITH PRIMIN'S CUSTOMARY PREFERENCE, GOS ASSUMES THAT SECRETARY DENT WILL BE ACCOMPANIED ON CALL ON PRIME MINISTER ONLY BY CHARGE. THIS INFORMATION ALSO REQUIRED IN PLANNING VEHICLE ASSIGNMENTS.

7. RE REF A, PARA 6, EMBASSY IS SCHEDULING BRIEF MEETING WITH PRESS AFTER ABC RECEPTION.

8. SEPARATE PROGRAM BEING ARRANGED FOR MRS. DENT AND OTHER LADIES IN PARTY AND WILL BE SUBJECT OF SEPTTEL. REQUEST ADVISE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE NUMBER OF LADIES IN PARTY.

9. WILL APPRECIATE DETAILS OF WHATEVER SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING PLANNED FOR DENT PARTY. WILL SECRET SERVICE BE ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY?

10. WILL APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED ASAP CONCERNING ARRANGEMENTS AND SCHEDULE FOR ADVANCE OFFICER.

11. REQUEST REPLY REF B.

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12. PER REF C, PARA 16, USIA WIRELESS FILE OPENS AT 7:00 A.M. WILL PROVIDE NEWS SUMMARY TO PARTY ASAP THEREAFTER, BUT NOT LIKELY BEFORE AROUND 9:00AM. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE MORING NEWS-PAPERS AVAILABLE. IF NEWS SUMMARY ESSENTIAL AT 7:00 A.M., SUGGEST USIA PROVIDE TO DEPT STATE FOR EARLIER TRANSMISSION. ALTERNATIVELY, NEWS SUMMARY COULD BE PLACED AT TOP OF WIRELESS FILE.

13. PLEASE ADVISE IF 24-HOUR COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE REQUIRED.
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